Remarks/Arguments

The present application has been amended to reflect that it is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/447,077 filed on November 22, 1999, which claims the benefit of the priority date of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/109,734, filed on November 24, 1998.

Prior to the calculation of the fee for this application, applicant requests that claims 1-33 be canceled without prejudice. Claims 34-49 remain in this application. New claim 50 is added in this application.

Applicant believes that no extension of time is necessary to make this request timely. Should Applicant be in error, Applicant respectfully requests that the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this request timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Please direct any questions or comments to Randall S. Wayland at 607-974-0463.

Respectfully submitted,

CORNING INCORPORATED

Date: 3/24/04

Randall S. Wayland Registration No. 36,303 Corning Incorporated Patent Department Mail Stop SP-TI-03-1 Corning, NY 14831

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.10: I hereby certify that this paper and any papers referred to herein are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee", service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below and is Addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, B. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on 3/24/04

Randall S. Wayland, Signature